GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2928
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2008
LACK OF SPACE IN SIDE-BERTHS
Kumar Shri Shailendra

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have retrofitted and provided some extra seats in the second class sleeper coaches in the trains;

(b) if so, whether any study regarding the lack of space in side-berths has been conducted;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether this move of the Railways is causing inconvenience to passengers; and

(e) if so, the reasons for such steps and the measures being taken by the Railways in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (DR. R. VELU)

(a) to (e): In order to enhance the passenger carrying capacity in sleeper class coaches, additional longitudinal middle berth is being provided in new manufacture of such coaches. Work is also in progress to retrofit these berths in existing coaches.

The design & dimentions of the longitudinal middle berth and its mounting arrangement has been duly assessed and tested before finalisation of the same. Due attention hs also been paid to ensure safety, comfort and ergonomics for the passengers. Moreover, this measure enhances the carrying capacity of the coach by about 12.5%, thus helping to bridge the wide gap between demand and supply.